

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO† BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA†

EXCERPTS FROM OUR STATE MEDICAL JOURNAL

Vol. XV, No. 6, June, 1917

EXCERPTS FROM EDITORIAL NOTES

Have You Enlisted?—I desire to call the attention of the medical men of this State to the situation which confronts them in the present crisis. [July, 1917] The Government has issued a first call for 500,000 men, to be followed by a call for 1,500,000 more as soon as the first draft is filled.

The work of enlistment is already on and the medical department of the army is having great difficulty in handling their end of the situation on account of the lack of doctors. An Army cannot be recruited without an efficient medical corps, and it behooves every medical man in this State to exert himself to the utmost to assist the Government in its undertaking. . . .

An appeal is therefore made to every physician and surgeon in the State to be ready and willing to serve his Country, and enlist as soon as possible, so that when the Government calls it will find the ranks filled and will not be compelled to resort to drastic measures to get the necessary number of medical men.

J. HENRY BARBAT,

*President, Medical Society of the State of California.**

The Military Situation.—The military situation [Year, 1917] is rapidly assuming definite form. By the time this issue reaches its readers the registration under the Draft Bill passed by Congress will be effective and all physicians within the age limits provided in the bill—21 to 31—will be potential members of the Army or Navy of the United States. Of this group the quota which California must provide will be drawn immediately into active service. The Secretary of War has issued a statement through the press that the date of reporting for active duty will not be until after September 1st. On that date something over half a million green, untried recruits will be established in camps throughout the country. These men must be cared for from the start, in the most perfect possible manner. Twentieth century medicine is none too good for those upon whom the country calls to defend the very principles upon which it is founded in order that we, the rest of us, and our children, may be able to live in security and comfort. These recruits must be protected as to be able to prepare themselves as soldiers of the highest efficiency. Without a full, efficient, highly trained medical arm of the service this is utterly impossible. . . .

All medical men who have no dependents should enroll at once—those subject to draft, in the regular Army

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† This column strives to mirror the work and aims of colleagues who bore the brunt of Association activities some twenty-five years ago. It is hoped that such presentation will be of interest to both old and new member.

* Former name of the California Medical Association was "Medical Society of the State of California." For references see "California State Journal of Medicine," August, 1923, on page 345 and September, 1923, on page 387.

The present name was formerly adopted by the C.M.A. House of Delegates on June 23, 1923.

By CHARLES B. PINKHAM, M. D.
Secretary-Treasurer

News

"For the first time since the system was thoroughly installed following its inception in September, 1939, the city employees' Health Service System today pointed to a dollar-for-dollar payment of its monthly medical bills. . . ." (San Francisco News, April 21, 1942.)

"The Treasury Department has asked congress to allow income tax deductions for unusual medical expense in certain brackets and for children in college. These two moves will alleviate much injustice in making out income tax returns. This column on several occasions has pointed out that children when they reach college age are more of an expense to their parents than when younger. Yet the government has taken off the exemption for a child when the age of 18 is reached. . . . We think the Treasury Department is on the right track in providing some relief from doctor bills and from college costs. We would like to see Congress approve this recommendation for the next income tax return. . . ." (Sacramento Union, April 2, 1942.)

"San Francisco Superior Judge Alden Ames today ordered St. Louis Estes, food lecturer, released from County Jail on completion of a 150-day term. Ames set aside an additional sentence of 1200 days arising from an alternative of paying a \$2500 fine or serving one day for every \$2 of the fine. Estes, who was convicted of violating the medical practice act, contended successfully that Municipal Court had no authority to impose the additional sentence." (Oakland Tribune, April 24, 1942.)

"Developed by an Australian nurse, the Kenny therapy treatment for infantile paralysis will be put into use by the San Francisco Chapter, National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Dr. J. C. Geiger, chairman, announced today. Dr. W. H. Northway, sent east by the chapter to take the Kenny course, will instruct San Francisco physicians and nurses in the methods of treatment." (San Francisco News, April 25, 1942.)

"Recommendation to all draft boards by the Secretary of War that chiropractors be assigned to medical corps of the Army, and filing of a petition with the War Department by the International Chiropractors' association requesting recognition of chiropractic in the military establishment, were announced today by Dr. S. J. Francis, representing the organization in this area. . . . It recommended setting up a separate Chiropractic (unit) within the Medical Corps. . . ." (Santa Ana Register, April 16, 1942.)

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† The office addresses of the California State Board of Medical Examiners are printed in the roster on advertising page 6. News items are submitted by the Secretary of the Board.